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The Partner Connection

The Newsletter of DCA

November 2012

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All Georgia State Government Offices will be closed Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23 in honor of the Thanksgiving holiday.

From all of us to all of you, we say:

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

NEWS AND EVENTS

DCA and Other Agencies Partner on Immigration Laws Reporting



L-R: James Stephens - DCA, Russ Willard - AGO, Stuart Wilkinson - Office of the Governor, Michele NeSmith - ACCG, Saralyn Stafford - DCA, John Turner - DCA, Carol Schwinne - DOAA, Rusi Patel - GMA, Ed Blaha - DOAA. Not pictured: Jonathan Sharpe - DCA.

The Department is offering a series of workshops in November covering the reporting requirements for Georgia's immigration laws (SAVE and E-Verify). Partnering in the effort are the Office of the Governor, the Department of Audits & Accounts, the Georgia Attorney General, ACCG, GMA, Georgia Association of Regional Commissions and Georgia Economic Developers Association.

The primary series of workshops is delivered regionally in video-conferences hosted by the Regional Commissions. A video and accompanying materials, including the presentation, Frequently Asked Questions and other helpful information will be posted on the Public Benefits Reporting System page on DCA's website the week of November 21, 2012:
<http://www.dca.ga.gov/development/research/programs/pbirs.asp>

FEMA - Hazus Excellence Award

Annette Henson: Exceeding Excellence



Congratulations (again!) to Annette Henson, a two-time **Exceeding Excellence** award winner. Annette's continuing dedication to finding the right answers earns her the continuing respect and gratitude of her coworkers, colleagues, and especially those who call her with a wide variety of questions each day. Thank you, Annette, for your hard work and commitment to excellence!

Click [HERE](#) to nominate a DCA employee for Exceeding Excellence.



Does your community boast a restaurant featuring local produce and products? Would you like to help a local, homegrown business gain publicity? Tell your local restaurateurs about the [2013 Georgia Grown Executive Chef](#) program and let's spread the word about Georgia's produce, restaurants and local chefs! Click [HERE](#) for the program application.

Hazus is the software that the **Federal Emergency Management Agency** uses to estimate the potential losses of public and private property in a natural disaster. It's a complicated model that can help emergency managers and their local governments see how different weather-related events may affect their communities. In order to make this software understandable and useable to local governments, Terry Jackson, Director of the Office of Mapping and Decision Support, designed a series of workshops to provide training to local, state, federal and university officials across Georgia. The training was so successful that, in October, Terry received the **FEMA Hazus Excellence Award**. Congratulations, Terry, and thank you for the work that you do to give Georgia officials an opportunity to make our communities safer!



Terry Jackson,
Director, Office of
Mapping and
Decision Support

If you'd like information on how Hazus could help your community plan for disaster, contact Terry Jackson at terry.jackson@dca.ga.gov.

Great Promise Partnership Debuts New Website

The Great Promise Partnership (formerly Great Promise Kids) is happy to announce the launch of a new website: www.gppartnership.org. The Atlanta company **Modo Modo Agency** created and donated the design.



"Great Promise would like to thank Modo Modo for all the long hours and resources invested in the new website. Being a new non-profit with limited funds, we would not have been able to produce such quality without them and their belief in the mission of GPP," said Lori Heemann Bodine, GPP, Inc.

UPCOMING DEADLINES, EVENTS, OPPORTUNITIES

Historic Tax Credit Training: December 6-7 in Savannah



Learn how to use tax credits to help finance historic preservation and downtown redevelopment projects! The City of Savannah, the Historic Preservation Division of Georgia DNR, Mopper-Stapen Realty and Quatrefoil Historic Preservation Consultants are teaming with the Historic Savannah Foundation to provide this two day seminar. Participants will learn and receive:

- Overview of the tax credit program and economic incentives
- step-by-step instructions on completing the tax credit application
- Information on property tax assessment
- A tour of historic projects in Savannah



November 24 is **Small Business Saturday**! Did you know in 2011, over 100 million shoppers turned out in the USA to support small businesses? Let's make it even bigger in Georgia in 2012. Shop small and support our friends and neighbors across our state.



Thanks to our partners at the **Georgia Municipal Association** and **Place Economics** for this graphic showing the value of redeveloping our existing downtowns. Click [HERE](#) for a larger image.

And much more! Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

HomeSafe Georgia

The Department will provide information on how to apply for HomeSafe Georgia's mortgage assistance program (including the program's eligibility requirements) in December at the following locations:



December 5: [DOL Career Fair](#); Noon to 5 PM; Dalton Trade Center.

December 6: Veterans' Job Fair; 10 AM - 2 PM; [Dave & Buster's Duluth](#).

December 8: Home Preservation; 10 AM - 3 PM; [Salem Bible Church, Lithonia](#)

Homeowners who are unemployed or underemployed may be eligible for temporary mortgage payment assistance. Churches, clubs and community organizations are encouraged to inform others about the events and to help those without internet access to apply for these funds. For more information, please visit www.HomeSafeGeorgia.com.

Land Conservation Loan Applications Now Available



The **Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA)** is opening the project solicitation period for the 2013 **Clean Water/Land Conservation State Revolving Fund (SRF)** program. The SRF programs provide low-interest loan financing for water systems and nonpoint source remediation projects, such as permanent land protections and acquisitions. Eligible projects will be considered for inclusion in GEFA's 2013 **Clean Water Intended Use Plan (IUP)**. GEFA cannot fund a project through the SRF program that does not appear in the IUP. Applicants that submit a project for inclusion in the IUP are not obligated to apply for funding.

Georgia's Land Conservation Program (GLCP) provides grant, loan and tax credit funding options to permanently protect conservation resources. The applications section of the GLCP website contains information for submitting an application for land conservation financing.

All interested parties must complete and submit the appropriate application form to GEFA no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 31, 2012.

For questions, please contact Andrew Szwak at andrew@gefa.ga.gov or 404-584-1035.

Spring 2013: Georgia Academy for Economic Development



GEORGIAHOUSINGSEARCH.ORG

Georgia citizens need quick and easy access to affordable housing options and we can help! Whether you are searching by price, number of bedrooms, or even proximity to work, school or transportation, finding a home that meets your needs is easier with GeorgiaHousingSearch.org.

Landlords can register in a five-minute process or work with DCA staff to register large-scale listings. For more information, please contact Ron Pounds at 404-327-6864 or ron.pounds@dca.ga.gov.

GeorgiaHousingSearch.org is the key to linking tenants with landlords. We offer FREE property posting, bilingual assistance, and a toll-free number (877-428-8844) available to those without internet access.



Department of
Community Affairs

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Registration is underway for the Georgia Academy for Economic Development in Regions 1, 6, 8, 9, and 11. Facilitators from [Georgia Power](#) and [Georgia EMC](#) will lead classes through four days of economic development and leadership fundamentals, with modules presented by experts from state agencies and local communities. The Georgia Academy provides an opportunity to learn about the essentials of community and economic development, with careful attention to regional issues. Contact your Team Georgia manager listed below for more details, or Corinne Thornton at corinne.thornton@dca.ga.gov.

Region	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Contacts
1	2/12	3/12	4/9	5/7	leamon.scott@dca.ga.gov
5	2/14	3/14	4/11	5/9	kathy.papa@dca.ga.gov
6	2/13	3/13	4/16	5/8	lynn.ashcraft@dca.ga.gov
8	2/7	3/7	4/4	5/2	jo.childers@dca.ga.gov
9	2/6	3/6	4/3	5/1	tina.hutcheson@dca.ga.gov
11	2/5	3/5	4/2	4/30	lynn.ashcraft@dca.ga.gov

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCING

October Awards

Region Three

Development Authority of Cobb County

- \$500,000 in REBA funds
- Creates 700 jobs
- \$14.4 MM in private investment
- Assists in the location of a customer service center for Home Depot

Region Six

Peach County

- \$500,000 in EIP funds
- \$500,000 in OneGeorgia Equity funds
- Peach County will construct a workforce development center in the South Peach Industrial Park to benefit students at the Middle Georgia Technical College

Region Eleven

City of Willacoochee

- \$6,983 in Immediate Threat and Danger funds
- Rehabilitation of Lift Station #3 on Springhead Road benefiting 310 persons

City of Morven

- \$14,975 in Immediate Threat and Danger funds
- Replacement of the turbine pump in the City's primary well benefiting 565 persons

City of Lakeland

- \$25,000 in Immediate Threat and Danger funds
- Replace the pump station located on South Valdosta Road benefiting 257 persons

Region Twelve

Brunswick and Glynn County Development Authority

- \$500,000 OneGeorgia Equity grant
- Retains 175 jobs
- \$216K in public (non-DCA) investment
- Make needed fire suppression system repairs and upgrades at the Brunswick Golden Isles Airport to assist in retaining Gulfstream Aerospace and benefit Manning Aviation (the airport's fixed base operator) and tenants that occupy the recently reconstructed airport passenger terminal.

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